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# San Diego Fire-Rescue Department CERT San Diego (Community Emergency Response Team) April 2006

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**CERT San Diego** offers tuition-free disaster preparedness academies to residents in the City of San Diego, reaching half of San Diego County, the fourth largest county in America. CERT San Diego is a public/private partnership program managed by the City of San Diego and employing the county's only full time CERT Program Manager.

In its first two years, CERT San Diego has graduated 477 citizens as certified Disaster Service Workers and built 16 community-based teams, at least one in each of eight City Council districts. Our graduation load has increased dramatically and we have broadened our reach to include many high risk communities throughout San Diego. Our goal is to reach and teach 1% of the City population, or 13,000 residents. Initially, citizens impacted by the Cedar fires (Scripps Ranch, Tierrasanta and Navajo) were the first citizens to train in CERT and form teams.

## Spring 2006 achievements:

2006 (March) CERT Teams

- ▶ In March 2006, CERT San Diego graduated an all time high of 142 students in one week—101 from the volunteer community (Academy 8) and 41 from Qualcomm BERT (Business) training
- ▶ In April 2006, 53 students will graduate from Academy 10.
- ▶ In the first four months of 2006, CERT San Diego trained more citizens than it did in all of 2005, doubling its graduate rate in 2004.
- ▶ We created a new fast-tracked academy with online component to attract new professional audience.
- ► We taught our first paid BERT (Business CERT) classes Qualcomm (March) and booked two more BERT classes (Qualcomm and BID Council May/June).
- ▶ Tested a mobile classroom concept at Westfield UTC to better reach students resistant to classes at our NTC location. We trained 53 students and built TWO new TEAMS—AT UCSD and Carmel Valley.

GRADUATES TO DATE	<u>473</u>
2004 GRADS	97
2005 GRADS	181
Jan-April 2006 CERT academies	195 students (3 academies)
CERT San Diego grads:	
2004 CERT TEAMS	2
2005 CERT TEAMS	10

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#### **2006 CERT SAN DIEGO ACADEMIES:**

8<sup>th</sup> academy- 6 weeks – Jan-March 2006 - 101 students

Qualcomm CERT (9<sup>th</sup> academy) Feb. 2006 – 41 students

10<sup>th</sup> academy – fast-tracked April 2006- at UTC Westfield – 53 students

11<sup>th</sup> academy – fast-tracked May 2006 – pending student pre-requisite confirmation

Qualcomm CERT (12<sup>th academy</sup>) May 2006 13<sup>th</sup> academy-6 weeks Fall 2006

## 17 REGIONAL CERT SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY TEAMS – as of Academy 10:

Council District TEAM		Members
CD 1	NORTH COASTAL (LA JOLLA, UNIV CITY)	17
CD 1	UCSD CERT	14
CD 1	CARMEL VALLEY CERT	13
CD 1	Q CERT (Qualcomm)	41
CD 1, 5	NORTH INLAND (R.B, Penasquitos. Sabre Springs)	26
CD 2	Beach CERT (P.B., M.B., O.B., Pt. Loma)	25
CD 2	Downtown CERT	4
CD 3	MID CITY (Univ Hts, Normal Hts, North Park, Hillcrest, Talmadge)	59
CD 4	SOUTHEAST SD (Encanto, Lincoln Park, Emerald Hills)	14
CD 1.5	SORRENTO MESA (SBC CERT)	30
CD 5	SCRIPPS RANCH	59
CD 5	MIRA MESA, CARMEL MTN RANCH	17
CD 6	NORTH CITY(Clairemont, Serra and Kearny Mesa, Mission Valley)	49
CD 7	TIERRASANTA	63
CD 7	NAVAJO (Del Cerro, Allied Gardens, SDSU, San Carlos)	45
CD 8	SOUTH BAY San Ysidro, Nestor, Otay)	10
ALL	HAM RADIO TEAM	27

## **Funding Update**

In April 2006, Mayor Jerry Sanders announced that approximately half of the CERT San Diego annual operating budget, approximately \$140,730, will be added as line item funding under his new budget proposal for City Council consideration in FY 07 (effective July 1, 2006). Grants, business CERT fees and donations make up the rest of the CERT San Diego annual budget.

CERT San Diego serves supports the San Diego County CERT Council (SDCCC) and Citizens Corps Councils. In 2006, \$11,863 was allocated by SDCCC to CERT San Diego. CERT San Diego was created in January 2004 with a \$250,000 two-year grant from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The program received \$50,000 in one-time City Council funding to ensure its continuation through June 30, 2006.

CERT San Diego made 33 spring 2006 presentations, including: Regional Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Breakfast Rotary, El Cerrito Town Council, Azalea Park Town Council, Paradise Hills Town Council, CAI (Community Assn's Institute) Emergency Preparedness Trade Show, Assembly member Lori Saldana's Emergency Preparedness Forum, Mission Valley Rotary, City Heights Town Council, CA Hotel-Motel Lodging Disaster Forum, Tierrasanta Kiwanis, Clairemont Town Council, Mission Bay Realtors Assn, Business Improvement District (BID) Council, San Diego Assn. of Realtors.

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